



# Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Health and Human Services

## 2000—2001 ANNUAL REPORT

### Victim Services Advisory Board

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Transmittal Letters  
Purpose, Mission  
Membership  
Citation of  
Legislation  
Meetings

Special Message from  
Co-Chairperson

Subcommittees  
Future Event  
2002 Priorities

2000—2001  
In Retrospect

Recommendations  
To the County  
Executive and  
County Council

Members Working  
Together

Town Meeting and  
VSAB Retreat

Victims In Need,  
Incorporated

Meet the Members

October 15, 2001

**The Honorable Douglas M. Duncan**  
Montgomery County Executive

**The Honorable Blair G. Ewing**  
President, Montgomery County Council

**Dear Messrs. Duncan and Ewing:**

The Montgomery County Victim Services Advisory Board (VSAB) is proud to present its Annual Report providing you and the County Council with the highlights of its activities for this past year. The VSAB's mission is to recommend corrections in services when needed, by assessing needs, providing support to victims and line staff, by lobbying for changes in legislation, considering budget needs and by educating and outreaching.

During this critical time, after the September 11th terrorist attack, so many violent crime victims are in need of services, the VSAB feels it is imperative to serve as the voice of the victim. The Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP) which deals with violent crime victims needs to be better advertised. There was very little publicity during the recent weeks referring to your excellent Montgomery County victim services. Television ads showed many phone numbers where people could call to get assistance in the surrounding jurisdictions but Montgomery County numbers were overlooked for the most part.

This would be an excellent time to let your programs shine and to get the word out that we are here and that we have the expertise to serve our residents in their time of need. Please help the people of your county to know what is available by helping us get the word out.

As the county increases the Victim Assistants in the police stations there is an expected increase in the number of referrals that will be made to VASAP and the Abused Persons Program. With this in mind the Victim Services Advisory Board would like to see an increase in funding for these two vital programs so that they will be better prepared to handle the increase in the client load.

It has been a pleasure to serve the victims of crime another year as the co-chair of the Victim Services Advisory Board.

Sincerely,

**Kay Cummins, R.N.**  
VSAB Co-Chair

## **A Special Message from William H. Henry , Esq. - Co-Chair of VSAB**

October 15, 2001

The Honorable Douglas M. Duncan  
Montgomery County Executive

The Honorable Blair Ewing  
President, Montgomery County Council

Dear Messrs. Duncan and Ewing:

Over the past month, much attention has been focused on the heroic efforts of the police and firefighters in the wake of the cowardly and despicable attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. And deservedly so. But virtually no one, from the President of the United States, to members of Congress, to our State and local government officials, have mentioned a word about the unsung heroes-- the victim advocates, crisis intervention workers, and mental health counselors who are helping the victims and members of their families and households cope with the emotional devastation caused by the most vicious criminal attack on our soil.

The mantra from government officials has been to "go back to your normal life," "go back to business as usual," etc. But for thousands and even hundreds of thousand of Americans, their lives are not, and may never be, normal or usual. The preliminary statistics are chilling. There has been an astounding lack of productivity among American workers over the past month. Large numbers of former crime victims and persons who suffer from chronic pain are describing an astonishing exacerbation of post-traumatic stress disorder and/or physical pain symptoms in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001 attacks. Mental health professionals and pharmaceutical companies are reporting an alarming increase in patients seeking counseling and new prescription orders (anti-depressants, anti-anxiety medications, sleeping pills for insomnia, etc.) after the dastardly attacks. Many of these new patients are not just current or previous crime victims, but every-day citizens who have been exposed to the daily barrage of news about the September 11, 2001 strikes and the subsequent threats of more attacks.

Over the past five years, I have been testifying at the National, State and local government levels about the "pocketbook" effects of crime. Despite my appeals, the governmental focus has and continues to be on spending more money on increasing police presence, homeland security and devoting more and more resources on trying to catch the perpetrators. While these actions are essential, they fail to address the hidden, but enormous costs of crime. For example, according to a National Institute of Justice study, at least 10% of mental health care expenditures can be attributed to victims treated as a result of their victimization. Violent crime causes 3% of U.S. medical spending and 14% of injury-related medical spending. Violent crime results in direct wage losses equivalent to at least 1% of total American earnings. For every victim who seeks counseling as a result of his or her victimization, another two or more household and/or family members also seek counseling. These statistics are virtually certain to get worse in the wake of the September 11, 2001 cowardly attacks on America. Moreover, given Montgomery County's proximity to our nation's capital, it is likely that our citizens will be more likely to suffer from depression and a lack of productivity.

I echo the sentiments of my fellow co-chairperson, Kay Cummins, in her letter to you of even date. We must highlight and publicize our County's superb victim assistance programs and

## Continuation of William H. Henry's Message

resources (such as the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program and the Abused Persons Program) with every opportunity that presents itself-- at interviews, press releases, cable television spots, and by other means. In a jurisdiction that prides itself on "quality of life" issues, the need to spread the word about our victim assistance programs is not only necessary, it is a County imperative.

The Victim Services Advisory Board will continue its efforts to spread the word about our County's fine victim services through speaking engagements, cable television spots, focus groups in our County's various "multi-cultural communities," public relations campaigns, fund raising measures, and crime prevention. These efforts, as well as our specific budget recommendations, are explored in detail in this annual report and will be addressed with the County Executive at the October 15, 2001 meeting of Health and Human Services' Boards and Commissions.

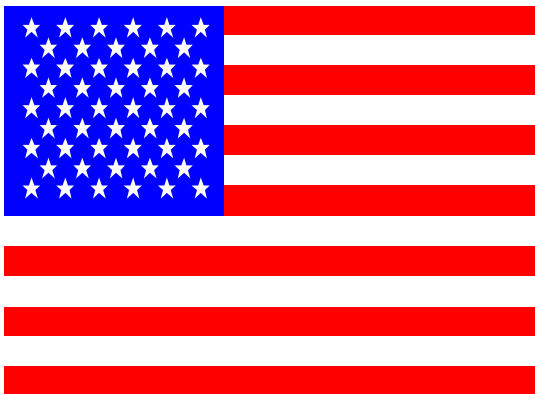
Thank you for your attention to the above matters. And thank you again for giving the Victim Services Advisory Board the opportunity to be of service to Montgomery County and its citizens.

Sincerely yours,

William H. Henry  
VSAB Co-Chairperson

## IN HONOR OF THE VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

### God Bless America



As America strikes back against the terrorist acts that took place on September 11, 2001, the Victim Services Advisory Board extends its sympathy and compassion to all the families of the thousands of victims who died as a result of the cruel, hateful, and senseless acts of violence. It is our sincere hope that the inner strength of each person to persevere will rise above this adversity and that we as Americans of every ethnicity and race, will each do our part to seek justice.

## 2000 - 2001 VOTING MEMBERS

### AT LARGE

**Kay Cummins, R.N., Co-Chair**

**Judith P. Aboud**

**David T. Bachrach**

**Deborah Ehrenstein**

**Martha C. Jones**

**Margaret B. Kabat**

**Pat Lupson**

### PROFESSIONAL

**William H. Henry, Esq., Co-Chair**

**Sheila Footer**

**Arnold Gordon**

**Anne Hopewell**

**Bo Nguyen**

**Clergy: Rev. Kathleen Bauerle-Berg**

Currently one at-large vacancy

## ***MEMBERSHIP***

### ***EMPOWERING, SUPPORTING AND ADVOCATING FOR CRIME VICTIMS***

Membership includes 18 voting members who are residents of Montgomery County and four non-voting members. The voting members consist of five citizens from among the mental health, legal, medical, dental and nursing professions; ten citizens at-large who do not belong to any of the professions mentioned above; one member of the clergy; and representatives designated by the Alcoholism and Other Drug Abuse

Advisory Council and the Mental Health Advisory Committee.

Four non-voting ex-officio members shall be the Director of the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program of HHS and representatives from the State's Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, and the Department of Police.

Voting members serve a term of three years.

## ***PURPOSE***

The Board must periodically review available services and facilities for victims and their families; determine needs of the victim and family services program; submit at least one report annually to the County Executive and the County Council on the progress of programs to victims and their families and of actions needed to improve those programs; makes recommendations for appropriate allocation of funds in accordance with agreed upon priorities and consideration of financial resources. The Board also assists the Director of the Department of Health and Human Services in the development of the annual victim services and families plan and acts as a local advocate for victim services programming.

Montgomery County Code—Art. VII, Section 24-56. Bill 7-95.

## ***MISSION***

**TO SUPPORT MONTGOMERY COUNTY'S COMMITMENT TO SERVE VICTIMS OF CRIME, INCLUDING RAPE, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT, HOMICIDE SURVIVORS, ADULTS MOLESTED AS CHILDREN, TERRORISM, HATE VIOLENCE, AND OTHER CRIMES.**

**2000—2001****Ex-Officio Members and Guests****Ex-Officio**

**Nadja S.P. Cabello, Director, Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program**

**State's Attorney's Office: Ethel Burnett**

**Police Department : Ellen Alexander**

**Public Defenders' Office: Maura Lynch, Esq.**

**Guests**

**Corinne Stevens, Chief,  
Crisis, Income, and Victim Services  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Maria Sivillo, Confidential Aide to  
Councilman Phil Andrew's Office  
Ann Miller, Police Department  
Warren Lupson**

***Monthly Board Meetings***

The Victim Services Advisory Board generally meets every fourth Thursday evening, (except August and during winter holidays) 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each month.

Meetings are held at: Montgomery County, Department of Health and Human Services, 1301 Piccard Drive, 4th Floor Conference Room, Rockville, Maryland.

Meetings are open to the general public.

***Why Do We Have A Victim Services Advisory Board?***

1. To review available services for crime victims and their families and to determine any deficits in services or to identify new needs;
2. To submit an annual report to the County Executive and the County Council on victim programs and to make suggestions for improving these services;
3. To assess budget needs to keep the victim programs running efficiently and to make recommendations for allocations of County funds in accordance with agreed upon priorities;
4. To meet regularly with Director of the Department of Health and Human Services in assisting with the development of an annual plan for providing continued victim services;
5. To lobby as needed before the County Council to improve laws within our County for the better treatment of victims;

## SUBCOMMITTEES

Subcommittees were developed in an attempt to utilize all of our Board members in a more direct role. Each member is asked to participate in two subcommittees. Some of these groups are very active year round, others have busy seasons.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Made up of the co-chairs, the director of VASAP and other members of the Board involved in the budget process to meet with staff and prioritize the needs of the program, to lobby for budget requests and to testify for the budget.

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Made up of members who devote time to make contacts with other persons, groups and organizations in an attempt to create solutions to issues involving crime victims using multimedia networking.

### ORGANIZATIONAL AND INFORMATION COMMITTEE

Made up of members willing to perform much needed behind the scenes jobs including phoning, attending other meetings and reporting back to the Board.

### LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Made up of several members interested in researching issues concerning victims that may require legislative correction, developing laws, networking with other groups with common interests, preparing testimony, preparing witnesses, and lobbying. This committee would require at least one attorney.

### MEMBERSHIP AND RECRUITMENT:

Made up of members interested in actively searching for appropriate candidates to fill vacancies on the Board as they arise, and to work on the recruitment of minorities to serve.

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#### **FUTURE EVENT:**

#### **WALK RUN EVENT**

**Ann Miller**

**Ellen Alexander**

The First Annual Victims' Fund Walk Run Event is in the planning stages for the Spring of 2002. It is being sponsored by the Victim Services Advisory Board and the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program and will help to provide additional funds for victims of crime for the Montgomery County Crime Victim Compensation Trust Fund. **Any and all funds contributed to this event will be matched "2 for 1" by County funds!!!**

Appreciation is given to the newly formed non-profit *Victims in Need, Inc.* as well as other valued co-sponsors for their enormous support in promoting this event. A brochure is being prepared that includes an official entry form. To receive a copy please write to: Ms. Ann Miller, Montgomery County Police Department, 12500-A Ardennes Avenue, Rockville, Maryland 20850.

2002

## Priorities

### **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Continue to address a change in the latest protocol by the County Police, Major Crimes Division, to exclude the Sexual Assault Outreach volunteer from being included as part of the Sexual Assault Assistance Team. Since early intervention is best, we believe volunteers must be included immediately in the process, as the County regulation requires; Begin an in-depth look at media coverage concerning victims; improve VSAB's website.

### **EDUCATION AND OUTREACH**

Outreach to private organizations to educate the community on Victim Services available and how they can be accessed.

### **LEGISLATION**

Support for the National Victim's Rights Amendment; joining forces with the Stephanie Roper Committee to back legislation efforts for Victims of Crime; support legislative efforts for a 24 hour Ex-Parte Order in the State of Maryland; work on educating judges that serve the community so they understand the need to impose appropriate sentences and to enforce the fees to support the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB); Continue to improve the State's CICB through legislation and needed administrative changes to expedite processing of claims.

### **DIVERSITY**

Attempt to attract new minority members from diverse cultural backgrounds interested and knowledgeable on victims of crime issues.

### **BUDGET**

Interview VASAP and APP line staff to assess the biggest needs for their programs. The Board focuses on three budget items for each program.

### **TESTIMONIES**

Testimonies will be presented to the Health and Human Services Budget Forum in October; the County Executive in the Fall and the County Council in April.

### **ONGOING ACTIVITIES**

Work with other HHS' Boards and Commissions by attending the Leadership Advisory Council meetings chaired by Charles L. Short, Director of HHS and work toward common goals; prepare Annual Report for the Executive and County Council.



# IN RETROSPECT

## HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ **Attended and testified at the Town Meeting on alcohol licensing and supported new study as proposed by the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council (AODAAC)**
- ◆ **Appeared on Cable TV with AODAAC to discuss alcohol and its link to violence**
- ◆ **Created a new non-profit organization, Victims In Need, Inc., to raise funds for victims**
- ◆ **Feedback given to improve outreach police protocol regarding sexual assault victims**
- ◆ **Provided personal testimonies at the state level to impact legislative changes**
- ◆ **Supported other victim services organizations (e.g. Stephanie Roper Foundation)**
- ◆ **Advocated funding for victims' programs and services in Montgomery County**
- ◆ **Testified, advocated, and lobbied for the passage of a new state law strengthening the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board**
- ◆ **Attended the Governor's signing of the new law**
- ◆ **Met with each member of the County Council to lobby for victims' issues**
- ◆ **Testified before the County Council on the budget**
- ◆ **Lobbied the State legislators for support of our Bill (HB504 and SB243) with phone calls and personal letters**
- ◆ **Researched victims' issues and what could be done to make corrections**
- ◆ **Held a fall retreat in September that was well attended**

## Advocating for the Budget:

- ◆ **The Budget Subcommittee met with the line staff of the Abused Persons Program and the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program to allow them an opportunity to communicate the needs of each of their programs**
- ◆ **Members met with Ms. Corinne Stevens, Chief of Crisis Income and Victim Services to express budget concerns and requests**
- ◆ **Attended and testified at the HHS Budget Forum to Mr. Chuck Short and all senior managers**
- ◆ **Participated in the annual meeting with County Executive Douglas Duncan to highlight accomplishments, discussed issues that need advocacy and made requests for the annual budget**
- ◆ **Visited individual Council Members and their aides to express concerns for County victim programs highlighting funding needs for the upcoming fiscal year**
- ◆ **Supported and advocated for security improvements to County buildings**
- ◆ **Testified before the County Council on the budget needs of victim services programs including needs in the Police Department and Sheriff's office**





# IN RETROSPECT

## Advocating for Legislation on behalf of Crime Victims:

- ◆ Joined forces with the Stephanie Roper Committee to focus on victims' legislative needs. 2001 was a successful legislative year for crime victims! A sample of passed legislations supported by VSAB: **HB 508/SB 240**—Victims' Rights-Incompetence and Not Criminally Responsible Procedures; **HB 507/SB 241**– Victims' Rights—Conditions of Pre-trial or Pre-hearing Release; **HB 504/SB 243**– Criminal Injuries Compensation –Claimants and Awards; **HB 614/SB 85**– Interstate Compacts; **HB 294/SB 353**– Juvenile Proceedings.

## Ensuring a Montgomery County System that is Victim-Friendly:

- ◆ Corresponded and met with Chief Charles Moose to discuss concerns for a recent change in police protocol at the Major Crimes division to ensure that sexual assault outreach volunteers are included in all reported cases of rape and sexual assault as part of the Sexual Assault Assistance Team (SAAT) as mandated by Executive Regulation
- ◆ Met with Assistant Chief Mates, Assistant Chief Barnhouse, Captain Forsythe, Corinne Stevens and Nadja Cabello in reference to the SAAT to improve outreach to sexual assault victims
- ◆ Provided written feedback on a draft provided by the Police on the outreach protocol

## Educating Ourselves and the Community on Victim Related Issues:

- ◆ Met with chairs of the remaining 11 Boards for HHS at the Quarterly Leadership Advisory Council hosted by Mr. Chuck Short, Director, HHS
- ◆ Sent VSAB board representation to regularly attend meetings of the Executive Task Force on Domestic Violence and the Mental Health Advisory Committee, on occasion attended the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Council
- ◆ Attended the State Victims' Rights Week annual memorial event
- ◆ Hosted guest speakers from the State of Maryland Parole Commission and the State Victim Services Board
- ◆ Received briefing from Corinne Stevens in reference to issues brought to County's attention on the Betty Ann Krankhe Domestic Violence Center
- ◆ Attended the County Council briefing on the Betty Ann Krankhe Center on Domestic Violence
- ◆ Participated in a Cable 21 TV show highlighting the issues of "Alcohol and Violence" together with the Alcohol and Other Drugs Advisory Council
- ◆ Participated in the 2001 Stephanie Roper Committee Member Survey to assist in determining the legislative priorities for 2002

## Advocating for Legislation on Behalf of the Victim - Meg Kabat

- ◆ During the past year VSAB has been very involved in the passage of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board (CICB) HB 504/SB 243 in the Maryland state legislature. The Law has greatly improved the current system of compensation for victims of crime, lessening restrictions which had previously required victims to prove serious financial hardship, allowing easier access to funds for victims. It also allows for additional services including mental health counseling for family members of victims and funds to cover crime scene clean-up costs. Members of the Board were involved through letter writing, phone calls and testimony to various members of the Maryland legislature. On April 15, 2001, the co-chairs, Bill Henry and Kay Cummins, attended the signing of the Bill in Annapolis.



## RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND COUNTY

As the county increases the number of Victim Assistants in the police stations there is an expected increase in the number of referrals that will be made to VASAP and APP. With this in mind the Victim Services Advisory Board would like to see an increase in funding for these two vital programs so that they will be better prepared to handle the increase in the client load.

### VICTIM ASSISTANCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT PROGRAM

**RECOMMENDATION #1** \$35,000 (plus benefits) for a bilingual English-Spanish speaking Victim Assistant. The current part-time victim assistant is totally overwhelmed with 24% of the new Spanish – speaking clients served by VASAP needing support and case management.

**RECOMMENDATION #2** \$40,000 for Public Relations to spread the word of the excellent victims' programs that exist in our County. This money could be used to print written materials distributed to the media for TV, newspapers, radio ads, billboards and bus ads telling victims the type of services offered, how to get help, and where to get assistance. This would be an excellent time to let your programs shine and to get the word out that we are here and that we have the expertise to serve our residents in their time of need. Please help the people of your county to know what is available by helping us get the word out.

**The sooner victims of violent crime are reached and counseling begun, the better the outcome. The County ends up paying now or later and it is cheaper to pay now!**

**RECOMMENDATION #3** \$40,000 for education. This money will be used to add to contracts for community education and outreach throughout the county. This money will be used for school programs, private organizations, associations that serve the disabled, community fairs and in Latino organizations.

### ABUSED PERSONS PROGRAM

**RECOMMENDATION #4** \$70,000 (plus benefits) to fund two new full-time Victim Assistant positions. One of these positions is for a bilingual English-Spanish Victim Assistant to be used in the District Court in the Silver Spring area. The second position is for a Victim Assistant to cover the Eastern regional area. They would assist clients to fill out ex-parte orders, refer clients to counseling as needed, provide court accompaniment, and make other referrals as needed.

**RECOMMENDATION #5** \$3,000 for the Interfaith Community Against Domestic Violence for mailings, printing and other costs associated with training for the clergy.

**RECOMMENDATION #6** VSAB supports the County Executive's recommendation for a full-time child therapist at the Betty Ann Krankhe Shelter and an additional recreational specialist. The Child Therapist would work at the shelter with children who come from homes where they have witnessed violence. Often these children are very traumatized requiring one-on-one therapy.

## VSAB MEMBERS WORKING TOGETHER

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### BOARD

### DEVELOPMENT

**Pat Lupson**

Two speakers were invited to address the Board over the past year.

Donald Todd, Victim Services Program Manager of the Office of Victim Services presented what the State of Maryland is doing for victims.

Michael Blount, Commissioner with the Maryland Parole Commission explained how victims are involved in the parole hearing process.

In the upcoming year we are planning to invite the new head of the Montgomery County Domestic Violence Department; a representative from the Jewish Community Center to speak about hate crimes; an upper representative from the County Police Department to talk about how the two departments (Police and Crisis, Income and Victim Services) can work hand-in-hand to better serve the victims of Montgomery County; and a judge to speak about his “view from the bench.” These presentations are designed to help VSAB understand how the County can better service victims.

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### MEMBERSHIP

### RECRUITMENT

**Judith Aboud**

Members recruit and interview potential Board members both at-large and professional vacancies. Special emphasis is placed on creating an ethnically diverse membership reflecting the culture of Montgomery County.

Additionally, members provided administrative services to the Board in the form of an active telephone network to keep members informed. This network initiates the Board’s telephone efforts to influence impending votes on legislation on behalf of victims. In recent years, this has enhanced Board support of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Bill, the Victims of Crime Fairness Act, 24/7 Ex-Parte Orders, as well as many of the legislative priorities of the Stephanie Roper Committee (a major victims’ rights organization in Maryland).

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### ORGANIZATION

### INFORMATION

**Judith Aboud**

Representatives from the Victim Services Advisory Board provide liaison services between the Board and other organizations involved with issues relevant to the Board’s purposes. This includes attendance at meetings of the Executive Task Force on Domestic Violence, the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council, Mental Health Advisory Committee, the Jewish Coalition Against Domestic Abuse, as well as various homicide victim memorial ceremonies. Members report the highlights of these groups at the Board’s monthly meetings to increase its awareness of the scope of activities within the county and state.

**TOWN****MEETING****David Bachrach**

Several members of the Board attended the town hall meeting regarding proposed changes to the State's alcohol licensing regulations. Our co-chairperson, William H. Henry, testified at the Town Meeting and made specific recommendations. Because of the information presented by the expert panel, convened by the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council, the Victim Services

Advisory Board passed a resolution supporting efforts to impose a three-year moratorium on further changes to licensing regulations and to study the possible effects of increasing the availability of alcohol throughout the county. In 2002 VSAB plans to establish a regular presence at Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Advisory Council meetings, in keeping with the group's mandate and past practice.

**VSAB RETREAT**

The Victim Services Advisory Board held their fall retreat on September 20, 2001 at the Montgomery County Public Safety Facility. Special thanks to Ellen Alexander for the use of their beautiful conference room. Thirteen members and support staff attended.

The meeting began with a moment of silence and a prayer for the victims and families of the September 11, 2001 tragedy. Ms. Gonzalez, the evening facilitator, also made note of the Board's important mission towards crime victims in light of the terrorist attack.

Prior to the retreat, Ms. Gonzalez mailed VSAB members a questionnaire asking for their feedback and comments on improving VSAB, their satisfaction with the role they play as members, the reason they became involved and what they like most about being part of VSAB. Ms. Gonzalez summarized the results of the questionnaire and shared them with the membership. A discussion of group dynamics and communication followed.

After a dinner break members selected three topics to discuss in small groups. The topics chosen were 1) A Year Round Calendar 2) Diversity Issues and 3) Board Orientation. Ms. Gonzalez concluded the retreat by giving a summary of the evening's events and awarding prizes to the participants. Overall a productive and delightful evening!


**ANITA GONZALEZ, M.S., N.C.C.**

The Board is indebted to Ms. Anita Gonzalez who very generously donated her services as the evening's facilitator. Ms. Gonzalez has 20 years of experience in the counseling field. She holds a MS in pastoral counseling. She is a National Certified Counselor and is a member of the American Counseling Association. Her presentation centered on opening yourself to new possibilities, clarifying goals and effective communications skills.



## **VICTIMS IN NEED, INC.**

Arnold Gordon  
Kay Cummins  
William H. Henry



VSAB members working together with interested citizens have organized a 501 (c) (3) organization whose principal charitable purpose is to raise funds and conduct educational programs in aid of County crime victims. The organization, was created in record time and will work to fill a desperate need for funds to compensate crime victims and their families above and beyond publicly available monies.

It will also work to assist victim services activities and to provide education to the public , law enforcement personnel, social workers working in victims' programs and crime victims themselves. It is crucial to get the word out to the community at large and in particularly to crime victims of the victims' services available in the community to assist them.

Victims in Need, Inc. plans to begin fund raising activities in the Fall of 2001, and will actively seek grant money from a number of governments and foundations as well.

Persons desiring to make donations can make them to :

### ***Victims in Need, Inc.***

c/o Kay Cummins  
19020 Quail Valley Blvd.  
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20879

## **MEET THE MEMBERS OF THE VICTIM SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD**

*We are pleased to introduce all of our current members who volunteer their time, special talents and skills to help improve victims' rights and services in Montgomery County, Maryland.*

### **William H. Henry, Esq.**

William H. Henry, Esq., has run his own law practice since 1995. He has been a victim advocate since 1996 when he was carjacked, shot and left for dead. Mr. Henry is a 1999 recipient of the Maryland State Governor's Award for Victim Rights and Service, a member of Who's Who in America, and is current Co-chairperson of the Board.

### **Kay Cummins, R.N.**

Ms. Cummins has worked as a registered nurse at Shady Grove Adventist Hospital for the past 22 years. She is a Certified Post Anesthesia Nurse specializing in the care of immediate post operative patients. She became interested in victim advocacy after having family members become violent crime victims. She is currently a Co-chairperson of the Board.

### **Judith P. Aboud**

Ms. Aboud worked for the American Society of Health-Systems Pharmacists for 14 years and served as a Program Administrator. She has served as an outreach volunteer for the Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program of Montgomery County for 5 1/2 years and was awarded the George Sullivan Memorial Award as the outstanding volunteer for 1997.

### **David T. Bachrach, M.A. Criminology & Criminal Justice**

Mr. Bachrach is employed by the U.S. Department of Justice to monitor Police Department compliance with the terms and conditions of federal grants. He also instructed students in criminal justice ethics and criminology theory.

### **Kathleen Bauerle-Berg, Master of Divinity**

Rev. Bauerle-Berg is currently the Pastor of the Church of the Beloved, and therapist for Interfaith Counseling Services. Rev. Bauerle-Berg offers a clergy's perspective especially in the area of sexual abuse and violence as a result of her experience in therapeutic situations involving people who have been victimized.

### **Deborah Ehrenstein, LCSW-C**

Ms. Ehrenstein is a licensed social worker who formerly worked for the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, Jewish Social Service Agency and Sheltering Arms Children's Service. Recently retired, Ms. Ehrenstein contributes her experience and skills in the area of child protection.

### **Martha C. Jones**

Ms. Jones has been a resident of Montgomery County for over 26 years and a volunteer for the Abused Persons Program for 11 years as a court companion. Her active role in the community as a victim advocate has provided years of experience to help improve and evaluate services to victims of domestic violence.

**Sheila Footer, Esq.**

Ms. Footer currently works as a legal recruiter for Frey & Sher Associates, Inc. For 10 years she worked as a trial lawyer specializing in business litigation and criminal defense and also worked as an Assistant State's Attorney for Montgomery County. She believes victims need support in the court system and that advocacy and victims' rights can help turn their lives around.

**Arnold B. Gordon, Esq.**

Mr. Gordon is currently the Director of Barents Group/KPMG Peat Marwick and is responsible for all tax administration personnel in all projects of the firm throughout the world. Mr. Gordon has been a successful businessman and Maryland resident for 23 years and wants to give back to the community by helping to improve services for victims in Montgomery County. He has played a vital role in creating the new non-profit organization Victims in Need, Inc.

**Anne Hopewell, M.S.W. Planning & Administration**

Ms. Hopewell is currently a Senior Associate at Health Systems Research where she manages grants to provide health care and quality child care to low income children. She was formerly the Executive Director of the United Way of Virginia. Although new to the Montgomery County area, Ms. Hopewell has extensive volunteer and professional experience in victim advocacy especially in the area of domestic violence.

**Margaret B. Kabat, LCSW-C**

Ms. Kabat is a licensed Clinical Social Worker currently employed with Value Options as the Provider Relations Manager for TRICARE. She has worked in mental health in Montgomery County for the past four years, both with children and adults.

**Patricia Lupson**

Mrs. Lupson, together with her husband Warren Lupson, visit prisoners and speak about their daughter, Gina Marie (26) and their grandchildren Shaun Edward (3) and Joshua Lee (seven months), who were slain in an arson fire set by their son-in-law on June 9, 1993. A guilty verdict with three consecutive life sentences was returned against the perpetrator in October, 1995.

**"I can't go back and make things right. I can't change the past, but I can make a new beginning. If just one prisoner leaves prison and doesn't raise his hand again, or pick up a gun, then I've done honor to my kid's memory."**

**Linda G. Meyer, M.A. in Special Education**

Ms. Meyer has a Bachelors degree in Social Work and a Masters degree in Special Education. For the past eight years she has worked as a Special Education Early Childhood teacher with Montgomery County's Infants and Toddlers Program of HHS.

**Bo M. Nguyen, M.S.**

Ms. Nguyen served as Director of Residential Rehabilitation at Chestnut Lodge Hospital. Her experience with the Asian community provides a greater understanding of victimization. Ms. Nguyen earned a Masters Degree in Pastoral Counseling and Theological Studies.

**Carol A. Weiss, M.S in Education Adm./Supervision and M.S. in Government/Criminal Justice**

Ms. Weiss is the Principal of Redland Middle School. Her employment experience includes working as a Montgomery County school teacher, Security Personnel and Training Supervisor, Director of Security, Criminal Justice Instructor and as a Police Officer of Arlington County. Ms. Weiss also has served as a Commissioner on the Commission For Women as well as a number of other community groups.

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Acknowledgment is also given to ex-officio members, VSAB support staff and guests who have contributed their time, dedication and expertise during this past year. They include: Corinne Stevens, Nadja S.P. Cabello, Inahi Maria Nichols, Mona Gafour, Meg Lewis, Ethel Burnett, Ellen Alexander, Ann Miller, Maura Lynch and Warren Lupson.





Victim Services Advisory Board  
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Language translation and alternative formats of this report as well as the VSAB brochure are available upon request. For additional information on the Board, please call or write:

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